

Date: Sun, 19 Dec 93 03:01:21 PST  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V93 #1477  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Sun, 19 Dec 93                      Volume 93 : Issue 1477

Today's Topics:

                    2K Filter FT990  
            [Frequencies in use: a FAQ?]  
            Carolina Windom  
            How callsigns are sequenced  
            how to scare away birds from my antenna  
            Need Specs to control Rigs.  
            Ni-Cd questions  
            Optimum call sign for CW/contests?  
            Reference for xmit tubes?  
            Report on VK2WI Broadcast, 12 Dec 93  
            Where are all the young enthusiasts? (3 msgs)

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.  
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Date: 17 Dec 1993 22:54:59 GMT  
From: orca.es.com!olin!alan@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: 2K Filter FT990  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Speaking of filters and FT1000s...

I am contemplating the purchase of an FT1000. I have heard good  
things about the FT1000 and I have heard some bad things. I have  
had the opportunity to use two different FT1000s recently, and I  
do like the performance of the receiver on CW. I began investigating  
what I would likely have to shell out for one of these and I

discovered that there are two different models available; the FT1000 and the FT1000D. The 'D ("deluxe") model includes the bandpass filter for "dual band reception", the TXCO (more stable oscillator), and 3 additional filters (including the 2K filter). According to the AES catalog, the combined prices of the 5 additional accessories included in the D model did not equal or exceed the difference in list price between the D model and the standard model. I asked the person at AES why this was and he did not know. I asked about the TXCO accessory and it turned out that there was a specified four-fold improvement in stability (.05 ppm accuracy versus .2 ppm without the TXCO). Close enough for me. In short, it appears that the FT1000 is likely the better value because you can add any option later if you choose to do so. I guess the "added value" of the D model is that you do not have to install the five accessories yourself, if you really want them anyway (the delta is about \$200). I would be interested in hearing opinions from FT1000 owners before I take the plunge. I have some input, but some more would not hurt. I have been a Kenwood TS-930 owner for many years, and am ready to upgrade to a more modern transceiver. I suspect that the FT1000 is a good choice. The current price of an FT1000 with no accessories is around \$3000 at the moment. The list price is close to \$4000. Good thing that I have been saving my pennies.

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Alan Brubaker, K6X0           |~|\_ "Pumps have handles, Hams have names;  
<IYF disclaimer>           | \* |mine's Lee, what's yours?" - Lee Wical,  
Internet: alan@dsd.es.com|\_\_\_\_|KH6BZF, the Bloomin' Zipper Flipper.

-----  
Date: 17 Dec 1993 15:14:58 CST  
From: ftpbox!mothost!schbbs!maccvm.corp.mot.com!CSLE87@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: [Frequencies in use: a FAQ?]  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Have you considered purchasing the ARRL Repeater Directory?? It is a great source of reasonably up-to-date information on repeaters in all bands from 10M up to at least 1296. FYI, generally for anyone looking for information on a subject, the ARRL has a publication!! WA8NVW

----- Original Article -----  
Path: schbbs!mothost!binford!att-in!fnnews.fnal.gov!uwm.edu!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!h  
From: gereiswi@nmsu.edu (George S. Reiswig)  
Newsgroups: rec.radio.amateur.misc  
Subject: [Frequencies in use: a FAQ?]  
Date: 14 Dec 1993 01:52:37 GMT  
Organization: New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM  
Lines: 10  
Message-ID: <2ej695INNhbtt@dns1.NMSU.Edu>

NNTP-Posting-Host: dante.nmsu.edu  
X-Newsreader: TIN [version 1.2 PL1]

I hope this isn't a stupid FAQ, but I would really like to get some information: How can I get lists of 2m/70cm frequencies used in certain geographical areas, along with repeater offsets and access tones? It would also be nice to know police, etc., frequencies.

I'd REALLY appreciate any suggestions. The only references I found (at Radical Shack) didn't have offsets or anything. I am particularly interested in the New Mexico/Colorado area.

Thanks in advance for the help!

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Date: 17 Dec 93 18:36:37 GMT  
From: mvb.saic.com!unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!  
europa.eng.gtefsd.com!ulowell!swlvx2!cg-atla!hajjar@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Carolina Windom  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Does anyone know if any magazine has ever done a product review of the Carolina Windom ?

I found a little information in World Radio June '88 and July '88 but I couldn't find any product reviews. Their ad in QST and CQ states that 6 product reviews can't be wrong!

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Date: Fri, 17 Dec 1993 22:17:46 GMT  
From: netcomsv!netcom.com!jfh@decwrl.dec.com  
Subject: How callsigns are sequenced  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

There was a very interesting article in the December 1 W5YI report about the sequence in which callsigns are assigned. Here's how it's done (as of the mid-70's, I think). "A:", "B:", etc. at the beginning of a line mean the call sign group - A for Extra, B for Advanced, C for Technician or General, and D for Novice.

#### Call Sign Assignment Order

# = a number, \$ = sequential letter

Outside the 48 contiguous states:

Pacific area

A: AH#/\$, KH#/\$, NH#/\$, WH#/\$, group b  
B: AH#/\$\$, group c  
C: KH#/\$\$, NH#/\$\$, WH#/\$\$, group d  
D: KH#/\$\$\$, WH#/\$\$\$

#### Alaska area

A: AL7\$, KL7\$, NL7\$, WL7\$, group b  
B: AL7\$\$, group c  
C: KL7\$\$, NL7\$\$, WL7\$\$, group d  
D: KL7\$\$\$\$, WL7\$\$\$\$

#### Atlantic area (Caribbean)

A: KP#/\$, NP#/\$, WP#/\$, group b  
B: KP#/\$ (I assume this is a typo for KP#/\$\$), group c  
C: NP#/\$\$, WP#/\$\$, group d  
D: KP#/\$\$\$, WP#/\$\$\$

#### Continental US

A: K#/\$\$, N#/\$\$, W#/\$\$, AA#/\$-AK#/\$, KA#/\$-KZ#/\$, NA#/\$-NZ#/\$, WA#/\$-WZ#/\$,  
AA#/\$\$-AK#/\$\$, group b  
(prefixes AH, KH, KL, NH, NL, WH, WP reserved)  
  
B: KB#/\$\$-KZ#/\$\$, NA#/\$\$-NZ#/\$\$, WA#/\$\$-WZ#/\$\$, group c  
(prefixes KH, KL, KP, NH, NP, WH, WL, WP reserved)  
  
C: N#/\$\$\$, group d  
  
D: KA#/\$\$\$-KZ#/\$\$\$, WA#/\$\$\$-WZ#/\$\$\$  
(prefixes KH, KP, WC, WH, WK, WL, WM, WP, WR, WT reserved)

#### Reserved non-geographic prefixes:

WC - RACES  
WK - Club  
WM - Military recreation  
WR - Repeaters  
WT - Temporary licenses  
WZ - Temporary operating authority under proposed new rule

W5YI also mentioned that two letter call signs with the first letter Y were originally reserved for institutes of higher learning - W5YG for Rice, W5YJ for Oklahoma State, W5YM for the University of Arkansas, and a bunch of others. W5YI once belonged to Rice as well.

Were there any other specially designated letter combinations?

=====

Callsigns assigned as of November 1:

District	Group A Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen	Group D Novice
0	AA0PJ	KG0JP	N0ZFP	KB0LMN
1	AA1HU	KD1SC	N1Q0L	KB1BEI
2	AA2QI	KF2SM	N2XAA	KB2QPY
3	AA3GK	KE3KS	N3QVP	KB3AZG
4	AD4MR	KR4HF	++	KE4HJE
5	AB5QJ	KJ5SC	++	KC5DZT
6	AB6YI	KN6US	++	KE6DDA
7	AA7ZR	KI7TD	++	KB7JZM
8	AA8NC	KG8EZ	++	KB8QHH
9	AA9JF	KF9SE	N9VKZ	KB9IVZ
N. Mariana Is.	AH0V	AH0AO	KH0CF	WH0AAY
Guam	NH2X	AH2CT	KH2HN	WH2ANH
Virgin Islands	WP2C	KP2CC	NP2GT	WP2AHU
Johnston Is.	AH3D	AH3AD	KH3AG	WH3AAG
Puerto Rico	++	KP4VW	++	WP4MLM
Midway Island		AH4AA	KH4AG	WH4AAH
Hawaii	++	AH6NE	WH6QJ	WH6CQZ
Alaska	++	AL7PJ	WL7NY	WL7CHI
Kure Island			KH7AA	
American Samoa	AH8H	AH8AF	KH8BA	WH8ABB
Wake W. Peale	AH9C	AH9AD	KH9AE	WH9AAI

++All call signs in this group have been issued in this district.

I don't know what the overseas 1 series is assigned to, or why 3 columns for Kure Island were left blank. Perhaps there has been only one ham there in the last 15 or 20 years?

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Jack Hamilton                      POB 281107 SF CA 94128   USA  
jfh@netcom.com                    kd6ttl@w6pw.#nocal.ca.us.na

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Date: Thu, 16 Dec 1993 16:26:31 GMT  
From: ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!math.ohio-state.edu!sdd.hp.com!col.hp.com!csn!  
news.den.mmc.com!pogo.den.mmc.com!boutell@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: how to scare away birds from my antenna  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <2enveu\$hob@reznor.larc.nasa.gov> kludge@grissom.larc.nasa.gov (Scott Dorsey) writes:

>In article <9312151601.AA00556@ganges.agro.nl> G.POLDER@CPRO.AGRO.NL writes:

>>I'm thinking of scaring away birds from my antenna

>>using ultrasound. I ever heard about people doing it,

>>but don't know what frequency to use, or which

>>output power.

>

>Why bother? With something like a yagi, they might affect the antenna

>pattern a bit, but as soon as you put the key down, they aren't going to

>stay there for very long. With a dipole they'll just affect the tuning

>a little bit, and again they will quickly decide to move when you apply

>power.

>--scott

>

>--

>"C'est un Nagra. C'est suisse, et tres, tres precis."

I haven't tried it myself, but I have heard that the fake owls placed in the vicinity of the antenna are effective in alleviating the "bird on the wire" problem :-)

73 de WD0FTF (I think I'll keep my old call)

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Date: 16 Dec 1993 23:18:49 GMT

From: ucsnews!sol.ctr.columbia.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!  
cleveland.Freenet.Edu!da884@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: Need Specs to control Rigs.

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Is there a Text file out there somewhere witht he codes or specs to send commands to the rigs to control there operation via serial port??

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Date: Fri, 17 Dec 1993 16:48:52 -0700

From: orca.es.com!cnn.sim.es.com!msanders.sim.es.com!user@uunet.uu.net

Subject: Ni-Cd questions

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <1993Dec15.170356.1@uoft02.utoledo.edu>,  
klee2@uoft02.utoledo.edu wrote:

> Hi:

> Need some input on rechargeables,

> 1. Should I store them Ni-Cd charged or drained?

> 2. Should I discharge them after a period of storage and then  
> recharge them to full ? If they needed to be stored charged.  
>  
> Thanks  
> klee

KLEE:

I recommend charging them prior to storage, especially if they are in a pack. Single cells are OK to store either way. In fact individual cells which I purchase are usually pretty dead. I use many 4-cell and 8-cell packs with my radio control airplanes. I normally charge them when stored for the winter, then if I think about it, charge them at least once every three months. I also have a battery cyclor that I use, especially in the spring before I put the batteries back into normal use. I will usually charge them up and then run them through the battery cyclor to determine existing capacity (I get a direct milliamp hour capacity readout), charge them up again and go fly. If the capacity is less than 60% of rated, I cycle them a couple of times. If they don't come up, they get thrown away. Of course airplanes are more critical to battery failure than radios. I haven't heard of an HT crashing and burning as the batteries gave out. The other option is to give the reduced capacity batteries to my kids for their battery powered toys.

I would not store a pack dead or near dead, because weaker batteries can be reverse charged by stronger ones (at least as long as there is some closed circuit that keeps memory going or something else).

My two cents;

Milt

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Opinions, thoughts, &cetera are my own (when I can remember them).

"He flies the sky  
Like an Eagle in the eye  
of a hurricane that's abandoned."

KB7MSF  
UTAH

America

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Date: Wed, 15 Dec 1993 20:38:30 GMT

From: nntp.ucsb.edu!library.ucla.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!

news.intercon.com!udel!news.udel.edu!brahms.udel.edu!penneys@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: Optimum call sign for CW/contests?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Now that the pick-your-own-callsign era may be at hand, there is a lot of furious thinking about what new ones would be best for various reasons.

I am primarily interested in CW and contesting in both modes. I want to come up with some 3-land calls which might have the most impact.

All suggestions welcome and a bizarre prize will be concocted for the winning entry.

Tnx Bob WN3K FRC

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Date: Wed, 15 Dec 1993 20:39:23 GMT  
From: nntp.ucsb.edu!library.ucla.edu!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!  
vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!news.dtc.hp.com!srngenprp!  
alanb@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Reference for xmit tubes?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Mark Olson (molson@bml4380.cpg.cdc.com) wrote:

: Can anyone point me to a reference for transmitting tubes?  
: I used to have the RCA Transmitting Tube Manual but it  
: took the long hike with a lot of my other "old" stuff.

: Now I need information about the 4X and 4CX series  
: of xmit tubes: 4X150 series, 4CX250 and 4CX350 series,  
: and I cannot find anything but cursory information  
: about these.

The ARRL Handbook has short-form info on some transmitting tubes.  
At least the basing diagrams and voltages and currents. The older  
editions (up to the late 70's) have more info than the current ones.

AL N1AL

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Date: 14 Dec 93 23:21:06 GMT  
From: munnari.oz.au!newshost.anu.edu.au!sserve!usage!metro!news.ci.com.au!eram!  
dave@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: Report on VK2WI Broadcast, 12 Dec 93  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu



What follows is a report of the events leading up to and surrounding the VK2WI Evening Broadcast on Sunday 12 December, 1993.

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I was invited to produce a report on the Council Meeting held on 10th December for inclusion in the Divisional Broadcast on Sunday 12th December; this I did, and it was posted on the packet network as a bulletin sent "WIA @ VKNET", titled "VK2 Divisional News" (from VK2WI), BID "24545\_VK2RWI"; it was also sent to the world USENET newsgroups aus.radio, rec.radio.amateur.misc, and rec.radio.info, with Message-ID "4986@eram.esi.com.au". If there is anyone who has not seen that report after a reasonable time, please let me know, and I will forward a copy by whichever means are appropriate.

The rostered morning broadcast team assembled at Dural on the morning of Sunday 12th December, to present the scheduled morning broadcast. Also in attendance were several visitors, including (but not limited to) Tim Mills VK2ZTM (Councillor), Cesar Miranda VK2TCM (Councillor, Broadcast Officer, and Dural Property Officer) and Bob Yorston VK2CAN (Councillor).

The Divisional President, Terry Ryeland VK2UX appeared just before broadcast time. Following the usual banter he went into the Engineer's booth and remained there for a considerable period during the broadcast.

It should be noted that during the morning broadcast there were three Divisional Councillors present (apart from T.Ryeland VK2UX): T.Mills VK2ZTM, C.Miranda VK2TCM, and R.Yorston VK2CAN. It is known that at least two other Councillors, Roger Henley VK2ZIG and subsequently Julie Kentwell VK2XBR, were in agreement that the report on that meeting be aired; this is a majority of the VK2 Councillors.

It should be noted that the callbacks to the morning broadcast were heavily in support of the inclusion of the report on the Friday Council meeting. It should also be noted that there was some concern expressed in the past over the broadcast text being altered, and this had led to the attempted disciplining of a member. To prevent this, it was agreed that the broadcast notes be removed and returned in time for the evening broadcast, to ensure that the official notes were read out unaltered on that broadcast.

Late on Sunday afternoon, the Divisional Secretary, Roger Harrison VK2ZTB contacted the scheduled engineer for the evening broadcast, and informed him that the broadcast was "cancelled" on "[his] authority". No reason was given, and being somewhat perturbed over this turn of events this rostered person contacted R.Henley VK2ZIG (a Divisional

Councillor), and advised him of this sudden decision.

Following many telephone calls, a majority of VK2 Councillors decided that the evening broadcast goes ahead regardless of any attempt to prevent same. As a result, two Councillors, R.Henley VK2ZIG and R.Yorston VK2CAN, gained access to the Dural premises, after encountering some resistance in the form of an unauthorised padlock. As none of the aforesaid Councillors was aware of this new lock, particularly the Dural Property Officer C.Miranda VK2TCM, he gave his permission to enter the premises regardless, with care to not damage WIA property.

When the evening broadcast team appeared, the premises were secured against any interference to the airing of the broadcast script. It was noted that various items had disappeared from the Dural transmitter site since the morning broadcast; to wit: the logbooks, the visitors book, a broadcast tape, and minor items. It was not clear why these items had disappeared, but improvisations were made.

During the broadcast, a telephone call was received from the Divisional Secretary, demanding that the broadcast cease immediately, by his authority. After advising him of who was present at Dural, he was ignored, and the broadcast continued. It ought to be mentioned that the Castle Hill Police were advised beforehand of the intention of the majority of Councillors that the broadcast goes ahead, and that they may receive some calls that may state otherwise.

During the callbacks, a police car arrived. It was revealed by these Police that they had received a FAX, on Divisional letterhead, from the Divisional Secretary, advising them that a break-and-enter had occurred at the Dural site, and that they were to arrest those within, including the two Divisional Councillors. It is noted that the Divisional Secretary had already been advised of the situation at Dural, namely that a majority of Councillors had decided that the evening broadcast go ahead regardless of any attempt to interfere with it, or to alter the legitimately-prepared script.

The police were advised of the situation, namely that it was a purely internal dispute, and they went on their way. The evening broadcast concluded; the logs were signed off; and the premises were secured.

-- David Horsfall VK2KFU, acting under instruction from Cesar Miranda VK2TCM (Divisional Broadcast Officer and Dural Property Officer), Julie Kentwell VK2XBR (Publicity Officer), Roger Henley VK2ZIG, Bob Yorston VK2CAN, and Tim Mills VK2ZTM; all of whom are Divisional Councillors (with the exception of VK2KFU). 14 Dec 93.

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Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU)      VK2KFU @ VK2RWI.NSW.AUS.OC      PGP 2.3  
dave@esi.COM.AU      ...munnar!esi.COM.AU!dave      available

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Date: 17 Dec 1993 22:47:47 GMT  
From: unogate!news.service.uci.edu!usc!math.ohio-state.edu!magnus.acs.ohio-state.edu!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!eff!news.kei.com!news.byu.edu!cwis.isu.edu!u.cc.utah.edu!news.cc.utah@mvpb.saic.com  
Subject: Where are all the young enthusiasts?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I would like to put my \$.02 into this debate. First define young. Lets say less than 20 yrs. I was given an HF reciever at about age 10 by my grandfather who was a ham. Enjoyed listening for years but never considered joining. Got my ticket during my first year of college at Worcester Polytech (Home of W1YK). The reason: tremendous access to a shack equipped for DX, VHF, UHF etc. In my opinion there is nothing like the allure of true DX and talking to people all around the globe. It seems to me (in a narrow view) that the people who join the amateur ranks, and stay active, are not interested in 2m communications during their commute to work. Sadly, when I used to teach classes, 9/10 were there only to upgrade to tech and get their 2m gear on the air. If this is the introduction to radio that most kids get, then is it no wonder they do not have, or maintain interest??? BTW, I don't buy any of the expense/antenna related arguments for staying off the HF bands. Computers are much more costly to feed than a ham habit, and good HF can be found with just wires. I do, however, long for my 4e1 at 175 ft.

73, Mark KA10DA  
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Date: Fri, 17 Dec 93 22:47:13 GMT  
From: mnemosyne.cs.du.edu!nyx!jsteinhu@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: Where are all the young enthusiasts?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <drew.95.0@trl.oz.au>, Drew Diamond <drew@trl.oz.au> wrote:  
>Is there no longer any "magic" in radio for young persons? At my radio  
>club, I see the same bunch of (mostly) grey and balding heads- rare to see a  
>young, enthusiastic person attend a meeting. And on the air- same bunch of  
>grey beards- not many young voices.

...

>Young persons now are surrounded by global TV, cellular phones, computers  
>with exciting games.... Is it surprising that building radios offers little

>prospect of any real fun?

Well as a 16 year old whas held a license for almost two years now, I have to say not to worry too much..There will always be people who want to "play" (or more importantly to "understand") with things. The main draw to ham radio was both the actully radio aspect of it, but also the group that ham radio is. My local club (Central Vermont Amateur Radio Club) was experincing what you desccribe..Then for some unkown reason a bunch of us kids just went "hey that sounds like fun". A key suggestion is to have clubs and people who give classes, hold them at a school. Not only is it a most logicly place to do this, (Guess what its day-job is..) but if you have a member who is a teacher he can spread the word and try to get peple intrested. In our reletivly small area, a school where the teacher got involved, there is currently a radio club of ~60 kids. So intrest is still out there...

(going back to why I got involved, i sort of left that dangling)  
The other aspect was the community. I really enjoy talking with people about Rf scince, math that is involved, general scince...Whatever..and where else (besides internet) am I going to find that in vermont?

Enough withe rambling..

TTYL

josh/N1MAM

--

jsteinhu@nyx.cs.du.edu

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Date: Fri, 17 Dec 1993 00:51:23 GMT

From: mentor.cc.purdue.edu!sage.cc.purdue.edu!aj@purdue.edu

Subject: Where are all the young enthusiasts?

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Do what I did; try to play with the cutting edge where no one else (or at least not great numbers of "someone elses") play; digital communication in the 902-928MHz ISM band. This is fun stuff. It's so short range I can't really step on important communications, and it gives me design and construction experience for those higher bands, like the 5GHz ISM band. You can't use 28MHz construction techniquet at 5GHz, or you'll just get a space heater.

I guess that because there are fewer of us young ones around nowadays, there is a statistical decline in the number of motivated ones. It's the 100th monkey theorem a lot of times; 1 starts washing its food, soon 10 do, then over a period of time, the numbers gradually increase to about 100 doing this in a colony of 5000. Then, suddenly, they all start doing it.

Now, 100 is a random number picked for illustrative purposes, but you get the idea.

In an age where the 100th monkey is watching Beavis and Buttthead, is it much wonder why us geeky types concentrate on the neato stuff?

Another argument is that it takes a lot of discipline and curiosity to get yourself up on the tech curve, so you better start young. Nowadays many children are weaned on the front of the TV's picture tube, not on the ideas that drive it or the circuits that empower it.

: John Dormer  
: [aj@sage.cc.purdue.edu](mailto:aj@sage.cc.purdue.edu)

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End of Info-Hams Digest V93 #1477

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